



STATE MINING AND GEOLOGY BOARD

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

For Meeting Date: December 8, 2011

Agenda Item No. 17: Presentation of 2011 SMARA Surface Mine Inspection Reports for Two Surface Mining Operations for Acceptance Consideration by the State Mining and Geology Board.

INTRODUCTION: The State Mining and Geology Board (SMGB) serves as the lead agency under SMARA for forty-five (45) individual surface mining operations, including operations located in three counties (Alpine County, El Dorado County and Yuba County), eight (8) San Francisco Bay marine dredging operations, and seven (7) cities that do not have mining ordinances. SMARA inspection reports for two surface mining operations are being presented for acceptance consideration.

MINE INSPECTION REPORTS FOR THE SMGB'S ACCEPTANCE CONSIDERATION:

The 2011 SMARA mine inspection reports to be presented at the SMGB's December 8, 2011, regular business meeting for acceptance consideration are as follows:

- Cool Cave Quarry (CA Mine ID# 91-09-0005), County of El Dorado
- Big Gun Quarry (CA Mine ID# 91-31-0013), City of Rocklin

A summary of violations, corrective measures and inspector's recommendations for the above surface mining operations are presented below.

Cool Cave Quarry (CA Mine ID# 91-09-0005), County of El Dorado:

No violations or corrective measures were noted at time of inspection on September 13, 2011.

Big Gun Quarry (CA Mine ID# 91-31-0013), City of Rocklin:

No violations of the approved reclamation plan were noted at time of inspection on September 26, 2011. However, it has been over four years since a revised financial assurance cost estimate has been provided to the SMGB by the operator, which is a violation of SMARA.

One corrective measure is noted regarding the need for the operator to clarify which existing structures will remain on the site.

Considering the above items, the inspector offers the following recommendations:



Executive Officer's Report

- The operator should provide the SMGB with a revised map or figure to clearly show which existing structures will remain on the Big Gun site following completion of reclamation activities. It is anticipated that such clarification may be processed as a non-substantial deviation from the approved reclamation plan.
- The operator should provide a revised financial assurance cost estimate to the SMGB per CCR Section 3804 as soon as possible.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION: The Executive Officer recommends that the SMGB accept the two 2011 SMARA surface mining inspection reports, and transmit the findings contained therein to the SMARA lead agencies and mine operators.

SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE:

To accept the two 2011 SMARA surface mine inspection reports:

Mr. Chairman, in light of the information before the SMGB today, I move that the SMGB accept the 2011 SMARA mine inspection reports for the Cool Cave Quarry and the Big Gun Quarry as complete, and transmit the findings to the respective SMARA lead agencies and mine operators.

Respectfully submitted:



Stephen M. Testa
Executive Officer